



CITY OF ATLANTA

BILL CAMPBELL MAYOR

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ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30335-0300
(404) 330-6100

November 30, 2000

Council President Robb Pitts Members of the Atlanta City Council City Hall 2nd Floor Suite 2900 55 Trinity Avenue, SW Atlanta, Georgia 30335

Dear President Pitts and Members of Council:

I hereby return with my veto, Ordinance # 00-O-1779

On November 20, 2000 the Atlanta City Council adopted Ordinance # 00-O-1779, as substituted and amended, that proposes to empower the Mayor and the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to supervise the expenditure of funds and assure the close out of 2000.

I support the basic intent of Ordinance # 00-O-1779 to close out the 2000 budget, however, amendment #2 requires the City of Atlanta to pay a retention incentive payment of \$2,000.00 for qualified sworn police personnel. While I support increasing the compensation for our hardworking Police officers, this well-intentioned amendment, if implemented, will create a plethora of fiscal problems for our City.

The salary savings from various departments are collective savings to the General Fund, provided that the General Fund is not experiencing an operating deficit. The Police Department does not have an independent revenue source for its budget. As a result, the department's expenses are paid from the General Fund as is the case with other City departments. Revenues collected during any calendar year should be equal to or exceed expenses incurred in that year, in order to avoid experiencing an operating deficit. I am disappointed to learn that our 2000 expenditures have exceeded our City of Atlanta collections. There are several circumstances that have attributed to this deficit; 1) Refunding of taxes and other fees, 2) Sunk costs from programs approved in the prior year; 3) Tremendous increases in fuel costs; 4) Other unanticipated expenses. To require the City to incur an additional \$2,500,000.00 expenditure for a retention incentive payment to the Police in the 2000 budget would necessitate either an immediately reduction in all other City of Atlanta government services (furloughing of workers) or a fiscally irresponsible reduction in our reserves. I do not support either of the aforementioned options.

Furthermore, I have been advised that the Atlanta City Code allows for the required close out of the 2000 budget in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices (GAAP).

For the aforementioned reasons, I urge you to sustain my veto of #00-O-1779.

Fill Corposition

Atlanta City Council

Regular Session

00-0-1779

Vetoed Legis. to Supervise Expenditure of Funds & Assure Close Out of 2000 OVERRIDE

YEAS: 9
NAYS: 5
ABSTENTIONS: 0
NOT VOTING: 1
EXCUSED: 0
ABSENT 1

Motion to Override

Motion to Override

FAILED Lack

Due to the Lack

of a 2/3 Majority

Vote

Y McCarty	N Dorsey	Y Moore	B Thomas
Y Starnes	Y Woolard	Y Martin	Y Emmons
N Bond	Y Morris	N Maddox	Y Alexander
N Winslow	Y Muller	N Boazman	NV Pitts

Legislation Consequently FILED SUBSTITUTE
ORDINANCE BY
FINANCE/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AS AMENDED BY
FULL COUNCIL

AN ORDINANCE EMPOWERING THE MAYOR AND THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO SUPERVISE THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS AND ASSURE THE CLOSE OUT OF 2000; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, that the Mayor and the Chief Financial Officer of the City of Atlanta, Georgia, be and are hereby empowered and instructed to prepare all necessary adjustments and supervise the expenditures of the departments of the City throughout 2000; to see that all vendors shall be paid for goods and services rendered and received on behalf of the City; and that funds to cover such expenditures shall be transferred from the accounts of the department incurring such expense in the normal and appropriate manner; or, if in their judgement, said funds are not available from that source, said funds may be transferred from savings within the fund, or such expenses may be deferred and paid from 2001 Budget of the appropriate department.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Mayor and Chief Financial Officer are further empowered and instructed to transfer within the Bond Sinking Funds the necessary funds to assure the payment of the 2001 principal and interest due on General Obligation and Revenue Bonds.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Chief Financial Officer will prepare a report to Council reflecting expenditures of the Departments as compared to appropriations of the Departments through October 31, 2000, no later than December 1, 2000.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that prior to any adjustments occurring the Retention Incentive Payment of \$2,000.00 for Sworn Police Personnel as authorized by Section 19 of Ordinance 00-O-0076, be paid on December 1, 2000, to those officers who qualify for such payment, from Police Department Salary Savings.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Mayor and the Chief Financial Officer will prepare a report to Council summarizing the close out activities taken within 30 days of completion of that task.

BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED that all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be and are hereby repealed.

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□ ADVERTISE & REFER □ 1st ADOPT 2nd READ & REFER Date Referred ((((((((((((((((((SUBSTITUTE AS AMENDED CONSENT REFER REGULAR REPORT REFER	ADOPTED BY NOV 2 0 2000		AN ORDINANCE EMPOWERING THE MAYOR AND THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO SUPERVISE THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS AND ASSURE THE CLOSE OUT OF 2000; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES	(Do Not Write Above This Line) ORDINANCE BY
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